

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00541 110728Z

21

ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 SCA-01 SCS-03 /029 W

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R 110640Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1113

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUSCAT 541

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS, MU

SUBJECT: PENDING CHANGES IN OMANI VISA ISSUANCE

1. CHIEF OF IMMIGRATION RECENTLY TOLD DCM THAT STEPS SHORTLY TO BE TAKEN TO SIMPLIFY ISSUANCE OF NO OBJECTION CERTIFICATES (NOC'S, OR VISAS) FOR PROSPECTIVE VISITORS TO OMAN. AT DIRECTION OF SULTAN QABOOS, IMMIGRATION OFFICE WILL ASSIGN ONE OF THEIR OWN (POLICE) OFFICERS TO EMBASSIES; THAT OFFICER WILL HAVE AUTHORITY TO ISSUE, WITHOUT REFERENCE TO MUSCAT, NOC'S TO HOLDERS OF DIPLOMATIC/OFFICIAL PASSPORTS AND TO INDIVIDUALS RECOMMENDED BY FONMINS IN COUNTRIES OF ASSIGNMENT. PLANS CALL FOR POSTNG OF FIRST TWO IMMIGRATION OFFICERS AT EMBASSIES WASHINGTON AND LONDON TO BEGIN WORK IN JUNE.
2. AT TIME CONVERSATION TOOK PLACE, OMANI FONMIN HAD NOT BEEN INFORMED OF FACT THAT VISA ISSUING RESPONSIBILITY PARTIALLY TO BE SHIFTED TO IMMIGRATION OFFICE. FONMIN MAY RESIST, BUT FACT THAT QABOOS PERSONALLY ORDERED CHANGE MAKES THIS UNLIKELY. EMBASSY ASSUMES THAT OMANI EMBASSY WASHINGTON WILL NOTIFY DEPARTMENT OFFICIALLY OF NEW PROCEDURES, AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY NOTIFICATION OF HOW THESE ARE SPELLED OUT.
WOLLE

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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